

Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund Workshop

Breakout Session Summary Monitoring and Evaluation Protocols December 12, 2002

Facilitated by Cathryn Tortorici, NOAA Fisheries

Habitat Restoration/Monitoring/Research

Habitat Restoration

Performance Standards statements and questions are needed at the Administrative and Ecological levels:

Administrative:

1. Projects must meet stated and measurable goals, objectives and strategies
2. What type of monitoring is associated with the project(s)?

Ecological:

- What limiting factors are being addressed?
- Restoration must take into consideration quantitative issues such as acres restored, miles of river access restored, miles of roads removed
- Restoration must take into consideration the quality of the project such as the type, value and function of the habitat
- Performance Measures should be simple and easy to understand
- Performance Measures should be identified at the “Watershed Scale”
- Messages need to talk about salmon at the “Chinook” level (not populations or sub-populations level when talking to Congress)
- How are Performance Measures describing meeting a percentage of the whole (i.e., 10% of streams in watershed X will be restored)?

Things to Think About:

- Be careful about word choice, i.e. “priority” and “significant” mean different things to different people
- Build on existing plans and their performance measures when designing performance measures for the PCSRF
- Place the discussion of performance measures in the proper context (tell the story), i.e., social (sustainable communities), ecological, and time (decades of work).

Monitoring

- Need Implementation, compliance, effectiveness, and status (define protocols, goals, objectives, questions)
- Does the project have a monitoring plan and monitoring protocols? And if so, what are those protocols?
- How is the monitoring plan linked to other local/regional monitoring efforts, or will the PCSRF funds be used to establish the larger monitoring plan in which project activities fit?
- Monitoring can and needs to include habitat and fish life history measures
- Monitoring can be used to evaluate existing needs and gaps
- Scale monitoring to the question that needs to be answered

Research

- Does the research plan meet established protocols?
- Can the research plan answer questions about:
 - Key questions
 - Critical uncertainties
 - Limiting factors
- Research needs to be “applied” in the sense that it can take basic information and data and apply to a Management Context
- Research needs to support/fit into the larger context of regional planning efforts